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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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45657	7590	10/04/2005	

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EXAMINER
BRUCKART, BENJAMIN R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2155	

DATE MAILED: 10/04/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>08 August 2005</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-9,12-22,25 and 26* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-9,12-22,25 and 26* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Detailed Action

Claims 1-9, 12-22, 25-26 are pending in this Office Action.

Claims 10-11 and 23-24 are cancelled.

Claims 1, 12-14, 25, 26 are amended.

There are no new claims.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed in the amendment filed 8/8/05, have been considered but are

moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicant's invention as claimed:

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claim 1-2, 4-9, 12-15, 17-22, 25-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No 6,260,050 by Yost et al.

Regarding claim 1, In a process comprising at least one activity, a computer implemented method for performing an activity (Yost: col. 6, lines 8-24), comprising:
     receiving a message, from a process management engine, to perform an activity which calls for invocation of a service provided by a service application (Yost: col. 6, lines 8-24; receive request from users), said service being invocable using a protocol (Yost: col. 6, lines 25-37), and said service, when invoked, provides one or more results of performing said service (Yost: col. 9, lines 20-46);
     obtaining a service definition for said service (Yost: col. 6, lines 8-17; col. 10, lines 31-43), wherein said service definition comprises mapping information that maps one or more attributes associated with said activity to one or more parameters used by said service (Yost: col. 6, lines 50-67);

executing a set of logic which implements said protocol to generate a service invocation
(Yost: col. 6, lines 8-36), wherein said service invocation is generated based upon at least a
portion of information, and is in compliance with said protocol (Yost: col. 9, lines 20-46; 61- col.
10, line 6) and
sending said service invocation to said service application to invoke said service (Yost:
col. 9, lines 20-46).
receiving a reply from said service application which comprises said one or more results
(Yost: col. 9, lines 20- col. 10, line 6); and
providing at least a portion of said one or more results to said process management
engine to complete performance of said activity (Yost: col. 10, lines 7-19).

Regarding claim 2, the method of claim 1, wherein said protocol is an industry standard protocol
(Yost: col. 6, lines 25-36).

Regarding claim 4, the method of claim 2, wherein said protocol is ebXML (Yost: col. 15, line
14).

Regarding claim 5, the method of claim 1, wherein said activity has an activity definition
associated therewith, and wherein said activity definition comprises said service definition (Yost:
col. 10, lines 31-52).

Regarding claim 6, the method of claim 1, wherein said service definition comprises an
indication that said protocol is to be used to invoke said service (Yost: col. 6, lines 25-36;
customized by user; col. 15, lines 5-14).

Regarding claim 7, the method of claim 1, wherein said service definition comprises access
information for accessing said service (Yost: col. 7, lines 4-9; col. 11, lines 46-57).

Regarding claim 8, the method of claim 7, wherein said access information comprises a URI
(universal resource identifier) (Yost: col. 7, lines 4-9).

Regarding claim 9, the method of claim 7, wherein said access information comprises a service
name (Yost: col. 6, lines 64-66).

Regarding claim 12, a computer implemented method for performing one or more activities
(Yost: col. 6, lines 8-24), comprising:
receiving, from a process management engine, a first message to perform a first activity
which calls for invocation of a service provided by a service application (Yost: col. 6, lines 8-24;
receive request from users), wherein said first service, when invoked, provides one or more
results of performing said service (Yost: col. 6, lines 25-37);
obtaining a service definition for said first service (Yost: col. 6, lines 8-17; col. 10, lines
31-43), wherein said service definition comprises mapping information that maps one or more
attributes associated with said activity to one or more parameters used by said service (Yost: col.

6, lines 50-67), and wherein said service definition for said first service comprising an indication that a first protocol is to be used to invoke said first server (Yost: col. 6, lines 25-36; customized by user; col. 15, lines 5-14);

selecting a first set of logic based upon said indication in said service definition for said first service, said first set of logic implementing said first protocol (Yost: col. 6, lines 8-36);

executing said first set of logic to generate a first service invocation, wherein first service invocation is generated based upon, at least a portion of, said mapping information in the service definition for said first service, and is in compliance with said first protocol (Yost: col. 9, lines 20-46; 61- col. 10, line 6);

sending said first service invocation to said first service application to invoke said first service (Yost: col. 9, lines 20-46).

receiving a reply from said first service application which comprises said first set of one or more results (Yost: col. 9, lines 20- col. 10, line 6); and

providing at least a portion of said first set of one or more results to said process management engine to complete performance of said first activity (Yost: col. 10, lines 7-19).

Regarding claim 13, the method of claim 12, further comprising:

receiving a second message to perform a second activity which calls for invocation of a second service provided by a second service application (Yost: col. 9, lines 20- col. 10, line 6), wherein said second service, when invoked, provides a second set of one or more results of performing said second service (Yost: col. 11, lines 37-45; different criteria per device);

obtaining a service definition for said second service (Yost: col. 6, lines 8-17; col. 10, lines 31-43), said service definition for said second service comprising an indication that a second protocol is to be used to invoke said second service (Yost: col. 6, lines 8-36; col. 14, lines 6-14; second set of results to a second device);

selecting a second set of logic based upon said indication in said service definition for said second service, said second set of logic implementing said second protocol (Yost: col. 6, lines 8-36);

executing said second set of logic to generate a second service invocation (Yost: col. 6, lines 8-36), wherein said second service invocation is generated based upon at least a portion of said service definition for said second service, and is in compliance with said second protocol (Yost: col. 9, lines 20-46; 61- col. 10, line 6); and

sending said second service invocation to said second service application to invoke said second service (Yost: col. 9, lines 20-46);

receiving a reply from said second service application which comprises said second set of one or more results (Yost: col. 9, lines 20- col. 10, line 6); and
providing at least a portion of said second set of one or more results to said process management engine to complete performance of said second activity (Yost: col. 10, lines 7-19).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable by U.S. Patent No 6,260,050 by Yost et al in view of U.S. Publication No. 2002/0178254 by Brittenham et al.

Regarding claim 3,

The Yost reference teaches the method of claim 2.

The Yost reference does not explicitly state use of SOAP.

The Brittenham reference teaches the use of the protocol is SOAP (simple object access protocol) (Brittenham: page 4, para 41) in performing an activity.

The Brittenham reference further teaches the protocol is used in deploying web services.

Therefore it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to one of ordinary skill in the art to create the process of performing an activity as taught by Yost while employing a SOAP as taught by Brittenham in order to deploy services to devices.

While the examiner understands the difference between a computer implemented method for performing activities and a computer readable medium comprising instructions, which perform activities, the examiner relates these to the code and features of code running on a computer system. Therefore the claims below are equated to each other in nature and are therefore rejected accordingly.

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REMARKS

The examiner thanks the applicant for clearly identified arguments and amendments. Applicant has cancelled claims 11 and 24 and has amended it slightly and entered the limitation into each of the independent claims already containing claims 10 and 23.
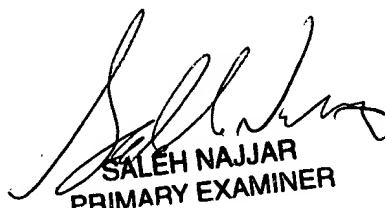
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benjamin R. Bruckart whose telephone number is (571) 272-3982. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:30PM with every other Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571) 272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Benjamin R Bruckart
Examiner
Art Unit 2155

SALEH NAJJAR
PRIMARY EXAMINER